WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1896-TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

FIGHT AT FRANKFORT

Searching Members for Weapons Proposed.

RESCLUTION IS REFERRED

Dun!ap's Course is Confusing the Republicans.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 14.-The 'war' talk of the last day or two called ferth a resolution from Mr. Nance, representative from Webster, which was introduced shortly after the house convened today. The resolution was meant in a half serious way, and shows that the situation here yet is only an "armed neutral-

"Whereas, the protection of human life is of greater importance to this commonwealth than the election of a United States

"Whereas, it is currently reported that people came into this ball every day armed with knives, pistels and other weapons of

"Reselved, That the dcorkeeper and sergeant-at-arms be, and are hereby, empowered to search each and every person, male and female (member not excepted), entering this hail. Any person refusing to be searched shall not be eligible to the privileges of this floor." Mr. Violet moved that the resolution go

to the committee on military affairs, and it was so referred amid laughter. Mr. Dunlap's Absence.

The course of W. G. Dunlap, who was given the seat of Mr. Kaufman by the house several days ago, has thrown the republicans into confusion. Mr. Dunlap promised that he would vote for Mr. Boyle whenever his vote would elect. Today the republicans desired to force the election of Boyle, but to their great surprise Dunlap did not appear, and it is reported that he left Lexington last night for Florida. The rumor cannot be confirmed, but the fact that he promised to return to the capitol this morning but failed has given the report of the capitol than appearance of truth Mr. Dunlan port an appearance of truth. Mr. Dunlap has been for several years one of the most prominent republicans in the state. He served four years on the state central com-mittee, besides in other important capacities, and is now the president of the State League of Republican Clubs. He is one of the brightest young men in the state and held a promising political future.

A Democratic Offer.

A committee of democrats from that body yesterday waited upon the leaders of the republicans in the house and proposed from the days of General Washington, and to rescind their action in expelling the two republican senators if the house would take back Kaufman. The proposition was refused, as the republicans do not consider the action of the senate legal, and will vote both James and Walton, and take the republicans claim that the proposition to reinstate Drs. Walton and James is an There was a movement on foot to elect Boyle today by voting both James and Walton and counting sixty-nine a quo-

Populist Poor promised to help the re publicans make a quorum, though he would not vote for Boyle.

Stopped by Deputies.

Another outbreak similar to that of last Saturday was narrowly averted this morning when the senate entered the house for joint session. The report that the republicans would attempt to vote Walton and James, put the democrats on their mettle, and before coming to the senate chamber. the clerk of that body swore in Jack Chinu, Eph Lillard, Jim Williams and Waller Sharp (democrat) deputy sergeants-at-arms. When they approached the door of the house the doorkeeper refused them admit

The conflict of authority was discussed warmly for some time, the managers on both sides taking an active part. The doorkeeper of the house held his post, and in the midst of the conflict of words and threats the governor appeared in the lobby and sent for the adjutant general, and the two went into consultation.

No Trouble in Joint Session.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 14.-A specia to 'he Post from Frankfort, Ky., says: Senators James and Walton were on hand early again this morning, and had no difficulty in receiving entrance to the hous chamber. The joint assembly convened promptly a

The call of the roll showed 131 members present, necessary to a choice 67. The republican senators refused to vote. Senator Hayward arose and declared that the preservation of the public credit requires the maintenance of a sound currency

12 o'clock and everything passed off quietly.

and that he would cast his vote for a man who favored these priciples-John G. Car-lisle, the greatest Secretary of the United States Treasury since Hamilton. At the conclusion of the roll call of the Senate Senator Deboe asked for call of ab-

sentees, and the republicans then voted for Boyle. Populist Poor voted for Pettit. The ballot resulted: Blackburn, 51; Carlisle, 14 Boyle, 61; Pettit, 1; Buckner, 1. The chair announced that as no one had received a majority of the votes cast there had been no election. Upon motion the as-

sembly adjourned.

DR. BROWN'S CASE. The Charge Against Him of Immoral

ity Dropped. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 14.-The

Brown council was in secret session all last evening, and at midnight was still in session. The council decided to ignore the charge of immorality with Mrs. Stockton, and is now considering the charges of mis conduct with Miss Overman. It is inti-Dr. Brown will be found guilty of unministerial conduct in intimidati young lady of the church. The charge of intimidating Mrs. Blanchard will be drop-

UNION VETERAN LEGION.

A Public Meeting of Citizens to Re Held at Willard Hall Tonight. The Commissioners have called a public

meeting of citizens of the District, to be held at Willard Hall at 8 o'clock this evening, to form a citizens' organization to properly receive and entertain visitors to the eleventh annual encampment of the Union Veteran Legion, to be held in Washington in October, 1896.

Gen. G. B. Williams, agent of the Cramps shipbuilding company, has started for Tokio, with the expectation of making contracts for some of the battle ships and cruisers that are to be added to the Japanese navy. He has taken with him models of the battle ship Indiana, the armored cruiser New York and the unarmored cruiser Columbia, loaned by the Secretary of the Navy, for exhibition to the Japanese naval authorities as the highest types of modern naval construction.

CHALLENGE TO FIGHT WIRESUNDERGROUND

No. 13,426.

Representative Linton Threw It in the Waste Fasket.

It Came From O'Donovan Rossa's Old Foe, Phelan, the Well-Known Fenian.

Representative Linton of Michigan, the leader of the A. P. A. sentiment in the House, received some days ago a letter from Capt. Thomas Phelan of Kansas City, the well-known Irish agitator, in which NEARLY AN OUTBREAK Capt. Phelan challenged him to fight a duel at Bladensburg, the challenge being preceded by a long denunciation of Mr. Linton's course in opposing the church school appropriations and the placing of the statue of Father Marquette in the Capitol. Mr. Linton paid no attention to the com-

munication, and from some other source it found its way into the newspapers.

Mr. Linton was asked today if he had made any reply to the challenge. He said: "Ever since the House defeated the appropriations for sectar'an institutions in the District of Columbia bili, partly through my efforts, my mail has been loaded every day with great numbers of letters from religious fanatics and cranks, denouncing me violently, threatening dire vengeance and death in various forms. All of these letters I have thrown in the waste basket. "There have been so many that there was not time to read them all, and I have paid no attention to any of them. This letter from Phelan was one of them, and, I suppose, went into the waste basket with the others.

I had forgotten the letter, nor did I think who Phelan was until the letter and a sketch of his career was printed in the papers. Since publicity has been given to it, I may conclude to make some reply. Not so much to Phelan as to the fanatical spirit which he represents. Of course, fighting duels is not in my line. That sort of per-formance is considered rather ridiculous by Americans of this generation. The threats which I have received from cranks have not alarmed me in the least, and I would have preferred that no publicity be given to them. "I am not an enemy to the church, but I am unalterably opposed to government ap-

am unalterably opposed to government ap-propriations to assist sectarian work, and to any sort of union of church and state, and shall continue to oppose them."

Captain Phelan is represented as a cele-brated broadswordsman and a Penian. A few years ago he was stabbed in a row in O'Donovan Rossa's office, in New York.

SECRETARY LAMONT'S REASONS.

Why He Thinks Gen. Miles Should Not Be Made a Lieutenant General. Secretary Lamont has made a report to the Senate committee on military affairs in opposition to the bill for the promotion of Major General Miles to the grade of licutenant general, unless similar action

is taken in the cases of Major General

Ruger and Major General Merritt, in order to enable them also to retire with the rank of lieutenant general. The Secretary reviews the history of each appointment as lieutenant general, shows that the rank of lieutenant general has never been conferred on an officer who has not commanded a separate army in the field, and he also gives the military record

of each of the three major generals on the active list. From this it appears that Gen. Merritt comes nearer meeting the usual requirement for the advanced grade than either of his colleagues, and that Gen. Ruger's services were probably as meritorious and distinguished as those of Gen. Miles. None of the three, however, ever commanded a separate army in the field.

HARD ON THE ENGINEERS.

The New Navy Increases the Retired Lint.

The frequent breakdowns of the engineer officers of the navy, attributable to hard work, resulting from insufficient force, promise, if not remedied, to oring about the anomalous state of affairs that the retired list of the corps will scon become larger than the active list. The increase in the retired list has become particularly remarkable during the past ten years, or since the building of modern naval vessels, with their complex machinery, and the figures prepared at the Navy Department on the subject fully illustrate this rapid

breaking down of the engineers. On the 1st of January, 1886, there were 221 officers on the active list of the engineer corps and seventy-one on the retired list, or 32.1 per cent as many on the re last January there were 173 on the active and 104 on the retired list, or 60 per cent as many on the retired list as on the active list. In other words, the percentage of re-tired to active officers has almost doubled during the past ten years, covering the period of the upbuilding of the navy. Com-pared with the number retired in the other branches of the naval service, the figures are startling, and the engineer officers ar-gue that they show their work must be very much more severe than that of any

Changes in the Interior Department. The following official changes have been made in the Department of the Interior: Office of Indian affairs-Appointment: George Y. Scott of Rosedale, Miss., a commissioner to investigate the Osage annuity roll, vice Clarence E. Bloodgood of Catskill, N. Y., declined. Promotions: Miss Carrie A. King of Michigan, \$1,000 to \$1,200; Adolph Amende of Alabama, \$900 to \$1,000. Patent office-Appointment: Charles Ar-

nold of Pennsylvania, fourth assistant examiner, \$1,200. Promotions: John M. Colt of South Carolina, second to first assistant examiner; James H. Lightfoot of Virginia, third to second assistant examiner; J. R. Audley Linke of New York, fourth to third assistant examiner; Walter B. Hindmarsh of Virginia, \$720 to \$950; Lineas D. Underwood of Indiana, \$720 to \$800.

Office of the Secretary—Promotion: Miss Minette Thompson of the Eistrict of Co-

lumbia, \$1,200 to \$1,400, vice Joseph H. Lambert, deceased.

General land office—Promotion: Mrs. Em na H. Horne of Georgia, transcriber, \$600. to copyist, \$900.

Pension office-Appointments on certification of civil service commission; Don E. Clarke, Henry B. Hazard and Clarence J. of the District of Columbia, messenger boys, \$400. Promotions: Miss Mary Desha of Kentucky, \$1,200 to \$1,400; Otto C. Richardson of Ohio, Luther S. Cannon of North Carolina, \$1,000 to \$1,200, John S. Eosworth of Indiana, Gaylord Worstell of rexas, Wm. H. Honn of South Dakota, Harry W. Selah of Nebraska. Edgar N. Martin of Louisiana, Abraham E. Hiltman of New York and Ambrose L. Jennings of

A Russian Admiral Here. Admiral Makaroff of the Russian navy has been in the city for several days past,

as the guest of the Russian minister. He was recently ordered to the command of the Russian fleet in the Baltic, and is now on his way to that station. He has visited the Washington gun foundry and several of the navy yards in this country, and was favorably impresesd with what he saw. He will sai! for Europe in a few days.

Consul Recognised. The President has recognized Arthur R. Getty as British vice consul at Chicago, and A. F. De Jersey as vice consul of the Netherlands at Charleston, S. C.

Officials of U.S. Electric Company in the Police Court.

MUCH DISCUSSED

District Experts Propose Plans for Burying Cables.

TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS

The sequel to the recent "electric light pole comedy" enacted at the corner of 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue a week ago yesterday was played out this morning in the Police Court.

The first act of the drama had for its "curtain climax" the arrest of the pres!dent of the United States Electric Lighting Company and two of his linemen for erecting a pole without a permit from the Commissioners and in direct violation to the order of Maj. Powell, the Engineer Commissioner. Readers of The Star will remember that a force of men in the employ of the electric light company put up the pole early in the morning of March 6. Later in the day Policemen Mellen and Oriani had two of the linemen "treed up the pole," and when President Thomas ordered the two men not to come down until they had finished the work of transferring the wires from the old and broken pole to the wires from the old and broken pole to the new one he, too, was put under arrest. The case was once postponed, and when it came up before Judge Kimball a little after 10 o'clock this morning President Thomas and his men were represented by Attorneys Jere Wilson and J. K. Redding-

Prosecuting Attorney Pugh had associated with him Mr. Sidney T. Thomas, the attorney for the District, and Mr. A. B.

Commissioners Truesdell and Powell oc-cupied seats within the railway which separates the officers of the court from the general crowd, and were interested specta-ters of the search crs of the scene

The Charges. The informations lodged against President Thomas and Linemen Philip F. Bashford and Daniel Scanlon charged them with "occupying public space." The president of the company was also charged, in a separate information, with "defacing

public property." In the case of the men who were arrested several days ago and charged with string-ing wires in a conduit on 14th street, Mr. Pugh, acting under instructions from the

Commissioners, stated that he desired to enter a nolle pros.

Superintendent Frederick A. Chamberlain and Lineman W. W. Burnett were also charged with occupying public space, so that altogether there were five defendants in the

Policeman Mellen was the first witness, for very little time was lost in the preliminaries of the trial. He testified to the orcurrences on that historic Friday, when he arrested the men who were up the pole, and also the others, who urged them on to the work that day. His story was substan-tially the same as told in The Star that day. Mr. Wilson said that for the purpose saving time and simplyfying matters the defense would admit certain facts.

Defense Admissions. For instance, the defense admitted that on the night of March 5, some time after midnight, a force of men in the employ of the company did erect a new pole at the northeast corner of 15th street and Penn- face sylvania avenue, to take the place of a pole that was put up by the Western Union company in 1867 or 1868, and was conscquently not in condition to do good service today. They also admitted that the work was done without a specific written permit

Mr. Pugh then called as a witness Thomas T. Rabbitt, who was formerly a lineman in the employ of the U. S. Electric Lignting

Empty Conduits.

The witness testified that there are two underground conduits on 15th street, one on the east and one on the west side of the street. The one on the east side of the street is a six-way duct. Of the six ways or ducts 'n the conduit one is vacant. or was a short time ago. There is also a dead wire in the conduit. On the west side there are two two-way conduits, which are not completely filled. In the opinion of the witness the underground conduits could accommodate all the wires which are nov strung overhead. Cross-examined by Mr. Reddington, the

witness said that the empty duct to which he referred ran from F to G street. He was unable to say that there was a vacant duct running all the way from Pennsylvania avenue to F street. At one time last fall he did assist in putting in a new cabic, pulling it through with a dead "pressure In response to a direct question from Mr.

Reddington, the witness said that he did not attempt to put a new wire through the vacant duct under the direction of Superintendent Chamberlain and fail in the at-The defense endeavored to show by Mr.

Rabbitt that wires of different character could not be placed in the same duct, but the witness said that he did not pretend to electrician, and the court suggested that anyhow that was a matter for an expert to decide. An effort on the part of the defense to show that Rabbitt had been discharged by the company and had threat-ened "to get even" also fell through.

Condition of Ducts.

Walter C. Allen, a clerk in the office of the Engineer Commissioner, was next called as a witness for the prosecution. He stated that he made a thorough examination of the conduits on 15th street on Friday, March 6, and also on Saturday and on the following Monday. He described in considerable detail the wires in the different ducts and their condition, from notes taken at the time. Several of these wires are "dead." Mr. Allen agreed with the preceding witness in the statement that there is a vacant duct in the east conduit at the northeast corner of 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue.

In the manhole at the northeast corner

of 15th and F streets there are two empty ducts. North of this each duct has at least wire. Between G street and New York avenue he found the ends of two dead wires.

Mr. Allen said that in his opinion the
wires in the conduit at 15th and Pennsylvania avenue could be more economically placed, so as to leave room for a number of other wires. Still he hardly though that all the overhead wires could be accommodated in that one conduit All the Wires.

Mr. Allen started to tell how the wire between F and G streets could be put underground, but Mr. Reddington insisted that this did not have any bearing on the case, as it did not show how they could relieve the congestion at the corner of 15th and Pennsylvania avenue, where the parand Pennsylvania avenue, where the particular pole is located.

"Why, your honor," said Mr. Pugh, "this information is not limited to that one pole. It covers every pole on 15th street from the Boundary to South Washington. They are all illegal, every one of them. Mr. Allen is warranted in speaking of any of them."

Continuing, the witness showed that

one conduit, still all of them could be taken care of in other ways, so as to take them off the poles. Thus, for example, one of the arc light wires which is not tapped between the avenue and F street, could be taken from the power house to F street through a 14th street conduit, which is not crowded at present, and provision could be made for the others in much the same way. On cross-examination, Mr. Allen was questioned.

On cross-examination, Mr. Allen was questioned at some length as to his qualifications as an expert electrician. The results being satisfactory—that is to say, favorable to the witness—he was put through a technical examination on live wires, return wires, three wire systems and the like. This made the trial anything but interesting to the spectators generally.

After explaining at length his plan for putting all the overhead wires underground, by substituting three cables for the six wires now used in the one complete incandescent circuit, the witness was asked:
"But, suppose these overtead wires were
strung to an old and rotten pole, would it not require considerable time to manufac-ture the special cables in order to put them "Yes, unless the company already has

supply of such cables on hand."
"Well, has it?" "I can't say as to that, but there are miles of just such cables in general use in this

"Where?" "In almost any conduit in the city." "Don't you know that the pole in question is the property of the Western Union Company, and does not belong to us at all?" asked Mr. Reddington.

"I understand that it does belong to the Western Union Company."
"Then your beautiful scheme for getting all our wires under ground would not ac-complish the removal of the pole at all?"
"Not unless the other wires on the pole were taken down?"

"And those other wires belong to the telegraph company?" "I believe so."
"And that company has no underground conduits in which it could place its wires?"

continued Mr. Reddington. "Then this whole prosecution of the United States Electric Lighting Company is in a Pickwickian sense; simply for the fun "That's not the way I understand it," replied Mr. Allen.
"Well, how would you get the telegraph

wires off that pole?"
"I did not make any investigation of that natter at all.' "We were the game you were after,

"Yes, sir."
And when you were after us and struck other game it did not distract you in the

"Not in the least."
"Well, now, unless those wires are taken down that pole will still have to remain, will it not? "I presume so."
"Then all this legal fuse and feathers can accomplish nothing, for the pole will still be in place when you get through,"

remarked Mr. Reddington, as if thoroughly disgusted with the whole affair.

"But it is the erection of that particular pole that we are interested in just now," replied Mr. Pugh. After some further questions on the technical side of the case the witness was excused and the court took a recess at 12:40

After Recess

After recess Mr. Puch introduced in evidence, with the agreement of the defense, a number of permits to saving wires or Pennsylvania avenue and 15th street, running from April, 1882, down to the permits which were issued after the law of 1888 went into effect compelling wires to go underground.

J. B. C. Shipman, superintendent of lamps in the District Commissioners' office, was then called as a witness. He was with Allen when the latter made his inspection of the conduits, and gave some corroborative testimony on the subject of combining the overhead wires in such a way as to nake it possible to put them wider the sur-

Cross-examined as to whether he had ever had any experience in the matter of running in the same duct two large cables, one carrying a positive and the other a negative current, he said that he had not, but that if the two cables were properly insuiated if could be done with perfect safety. The witness was also questioned as to the effect of electrolysis, and said that it would be and said that it would be no greater with two cables than it would be with one. In point of fact, this company has two such cables in one duct at the very point in

"Do you not know," he was asked, "that there is an obstruction in the conduit beween Pennsylvania avenue and F street?" "I do not. "Have you ever tried to get anything through that conduit?"

'Then you do not know whether a cable could be run through that particular duct

"Of my own knowledge I do not." Walter P. Keene, also of the engineer's office, testified as to the examinations he had made alone and with Allen and Shipman of the wires and conduits on 15th street.

Superintendent A. R. Miles of the District telegraph and telephone service was called as the next witness, and was examined along much the same line as the others He thought that if all the dead wires were removed from the six ducts it would give the equivalent of two empty ducts, and his impression was that all the electric light wires on the poles could be accommodated in them.

Mr. Miles was still on the stand wher The Star's report closed, and it is likely that several days will be required to com plete the case.

RIVER IMPROVEMENTS.

Congressmen Given a Trip by a Board of Trade Committee. Charles B. Church, chairman of the board of trade river and harbor improvements committee, with the other members of

that committee, took the river and harbor committee of the House and the commerce | the point of no quorum at the outset and no committee of the Senate out for the afternoon on the steamer Triton for the purpose of inspecting the Anacestia river and Potomac channel and flats improvements. Gen. Craighill was present with other engineer officers of the army. The District Commissioners and Senator George were also of the party.

Edwin S. Smeltz, mayor of Lancaster, is in the city the guest of friends on Capi-Mr. Wm. H. Strickland, representing

Messrs. A. W. Palmer and Edwin Knowles, is at the Raleigh. Lieut. B. M. Russell, nineteenth infantry, is in the city on leave. Surg. George W. Simpson of the New

York navy yard, has reported at the Navy Department for duty. He is stopping at the Army and Navy Club. First Assistant Secretary Sims and family left yesterday for Florida. Gov. Sims owns one of the famous orange groves at El Dorado, on Lake Harris, which tourists report again in bloom.

Badly Burned. This morning about 10 o'clock Mary King, colored, eleven years old, who fives at No. 909 Florida avenue, was the victim of a gasoline stove fire. She was endeavoring to start the fire, when her clothes ignited, and before the was and before she was rescued she was badly and before she was rescued she was badly burned about the face, back and body. The police patrol wagon was pant for, and the suffering child was taken to the Chil-dren's Hospital, where, under the care of the physicians, she was soon made com-fortable. While her injuries are serious, the doctors think she will recover.

while it would not be possible to place all the overhead wires on 15th street in the one conduit, still all of them could be taken

The Question as to Methodist Presiding Elders.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE DISCUSSION

Dr. Wilson Argues Against the Proposed Change.

VIEWS OF OTHER SPEAKERS

special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 15.-Presiding Elder Luther B. Wilson of the Washington district made the strongest presentation of the opposition to the Bacon resolutions today in the Baltimore annual conference in session at Breadway Church. Dr. Wilson conceded the first proposition for lay representation, but protested against the election of presiding elders.

"Presiding elders are the point of contact with the people," he said, "and therefore form the point of friction. Such an arrangement as is proposed is impracticable. The confirming power ought to be absolutely with the bishops or with the

"If there would be any bossism it would be with this irresponsible majority. We must have a plan for all parts of the world, and not one for a single section. The power of our church is in its untrammeled episcopccy. Otherwise we would be obliged to have national churches instead of a universal church. Would that I could call up before you visions of the great leaders of our church who have been loyal to its

principles."

Rev. Joel Brown contended for the principles of the majority report.

"I am for a republican," he declared, "as against a monarchical reform of government. I challenge the statement that the present system has worked well. It is not the system, but the men behind it, who have accomplished the results. If all the bishops died, and if all the presiding elders were buried, the reports of our revivals were buried, the reports of our revivals and other church work would have been just as good. Suppose those remained who have been driven out of the church by its system, how much greater would be our church today?"

Rev. E. T. Mowbray characterized the proposed election of presiding elders as one for "spoils." He said the lay convention had taken power away from the bishops entirely by giving a majority of the pre-siding elders the right of confirmation of appointments. Rev. C. Herbert Richardson said the an-

Rev. C. Herbert Richardson said the annual conference remains a fence in the common field open to the laymen on one side in the quarterly and district conferences, and on the other side in the general conference. He advocated throwing down Rev. Dr. J. N. Davis spoke for the resolutions, and said he was the only speaker in favor of a similar plan proposed in conference fifteen years ago. The discussion bids fair to occupy the remaining hours of the session without setting to the order for

election of general conference delegates. Howell L. Bryant, Walter G. McNell, L. Emory Bennett, Jeremiah L. Winger and Jacob M. Gillum were elected to deacons' orders, and were admitted to full member ship in the conference. Bishop Warren hinted at some of the assaults made on the polity of the church in telling the candidates they had better stay out unless they came into conference ready to much stay. into conference ready to support the polity and institutions as they found them.
"When you are sent to the general conference to fight for some legislative point for your brethren," he said, "is time enough to commence that; meanwhile be content to sit quietly in your sophomoric state. John R. Edwards, Louis Henck, R. E. Ben-

CAPITOL TOPICS.

local deacons' orders.

son and H. C. Grimmell were admitted

The Retirement of Clerks.

The House committee on civil service and reform has taken up for consideration the bilis providing a pension fund for superannuated clerks in the departments at Washington, by the retention of a small percentage of the clerks' salaries monthly. The civil service commissioners advocated the bills before the committee yesterday, and Messrs. Robinson, Foster and Smith, departmental employes, together with Mr. Nash of the Boston Civil Service Reform Association, also spoke in favor of the plan.

The Ford's Theater Disaster Report. The joint congressional committee on the Ford's Theater disaster will meet April 15 to consider the report of the subcommittee, consisting of Senator Faulkner and Representative Updegraff, appointed to investigate the individual claims of the survivors of the accident, which is about

completed. Representative Robbins Unsented. After five days' debate, the House yesterday, by a vote of 173 to 59, unseated Gasten A. Robbins from the fourth Alabama district and decided that his republican opponent, W. F. Aldrich, was elected and entitled to the seat. All the republicans, with the exception of Mr. White of Illinois, and the populists, and three democrats, Messrs. Cobb, Dockery and De Armond of Missouri, voted for the majority report. The 59 votes against the report were cast by democrats, with one exception. The case furnished the republicans with ample material for airing their views on southern election methods, it being admitted by the minority that fraudulent pallots to the extent of over 3,000 were cast for the contestee in Dallas county.

At the night session of the House last night Mr. Erdman of Pennsylvania raised

business was transacted. The sergeant-at-arms, Mr. Snow of Illinois, had four deputies scurrying about town with over one hundred warrants in their possession looking for absentees, but no one except Mr. De Armond of Missouri was arrested and brought to the bar of the House before the hour of adjournment, 10:30. The House adjourned before he could be arraigned. Under the rules of the House all proceedings under the call cease with an adjournment and warrants lapse.

To Elect Senators by the People. The Senate committee on privileges and elections yesterday authorized Senator

Mitchell, chairman of the committee, to report his joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people. The vote in committee was 5 to 4 in favor of the amendment, three republicans and two democrats voting in the affirmative and two republicans and two Silver Senators and Protection.

set of resolutions from the chamber of con merce of Ogden declaring that his vote against the tariff bill in the Senate meets with their hearty approval, and that while they favor protection, they agree with him that protection and silver should be linked together, and they are opposed to protection in one section of the country to the exculsion of others. The five Senators who took the position of opposing tariff in the interests of silver are getting a large number of letters from the extreme silver sections which they represent approving of their course and indicating that the sil-

ver states are willing to sacrifice every-thing to this particular interest.

Sickness the Cause of Much of the Destitu-

Contributions Received to Aid the Worthy Poor-Persons in a

Deplorable Condition. Pitiful cases of destitution, suffering and

want among the poor of the city continue to be brought to the attention of the agents of the Associated Charities in large numbers. The need of money to render necessary assistance is more imperative than at any time prior to the present during the winter, and the emergency relief committee desires it stated that the call for funds is still before the public and the appeal for aid is as earnest as it was Wednesday last.

The reports received at the central office this morring from the district agents affirm the previous announcements that sickness is the most violent enemy to be fought. It makes its presence felt in more ways than one; for instance, a father has lost his situation because two children were stricken with diphtheria, the disease being contagious. The condition of the weather has thrown a large number of men out of employment, especially those who have been engaged in brick yards, and in consequence, their families must suffer. Several cases of pneumonia are on the lists, as are a dozen or more instances of sick women, with young children, who have been deserted by their husbands and are now in a most deplorable condition.

Without ready money the hands of the Associated Charities are tied and applications for aid must be refused. With the contributions of the past few days something has been accomplished, but a substantial increase of cash must material-ize before the condition of affairs can be ize before the condition of affairs can be confronted properly. Contributions should be sent to The Evening Star or to Mr. John Joy Edson, Washington Loan and Trust building.

A ton of coal has been contributed by Mr. B. L. Simpson, and similar dorations are requested and will be gladly acknowledged, as will clothing and food.

Contributions Received. The contributions received up to this afternoon are as follows: Evening Star Company.....\$100.00 J. W. Closson 10.00 Cash 10.00 M. D. M 3.75 F. J. C..... W. H. Goddard.....

A Resident. E. C. Woodbury..... 20.00 P. B. Blunt 20.00 Mary Howe Totten 10.00 Edward Farquhar.
Executors of J. W. Easby..... Campbell Carrington..... William B. Gurley...... 5.00 20.00 O. P. E....

L. E. M. 1.00 Walden Myer. 50.00 Anonymous 1.00 R. T. Frazer 2.00 Stranger..... 20.00

Dr. E. M. Galiaudet..... W. G. Fowler.
Ruth S. Baldwin.:

Grand total.... E. B. Anderson has sent \$15 to The Star for the relief of the two destitute wor whose condition was mentioned in The Star Wednesday last. .

TWO INTERVIEWS.

Messrs. Morrill and Dingley Confer With Secretary Carlisle. Senator Morrill, chairman of the finance

committee, and Representative Dingley. chairman of the ways and means committee, were in conference with Secretary Carand there were many wreaths of flowers delisle at the Treasury Department today in regard to the prospects of financial and tariff legislation at this session. The interviews were separate and that of Represen tative Diagley was much the longer. The presence of these two leading republicans caused considerable comment at the Treas ury Department, and there was all sorts of speculation as to the nature of the busi-ness under consideration. It is said that Mr. Dingley desired specially to get Secre-tary Carlisle's views on a proposition for the remedy of certain alleged defects in the customs administrative law, and als to consult with him in regard to legislation for the protection of the Alaska seal in dustry.

CAN'T GO TO CUBA.

Army Officers Not Permitted to Have Leave for That Purpose.

As indicative of the great care being exercised to avoid possible complications with the Spanish government, it is stated that several army officers who applied for leave of absence with permission to cruise in the West Indies received the desired leave with the distinct understanding that under no circumstances were they to visit the Island of Cuba. It is said that the queen of the Antilles was really the only one of the West Indies that several of the officers desired to visit. They did not wish to participate in the hostilities, but merely wanted to look on for their own informa-tion. Inasmuch as their presence might easily be misunderstood, the military nu-thorities deemed it best that they should keep away from the island during the pre vailing troubles. Senator Cannon of Utah has received a Several years ago all applications for leave of absence to visit the Bermudas were similarly denied by the War Depart-ment, but the prohibition no longer exists,

> tween Great Britain and the United States over the Venezuelan affair. The Informer's Share.

notwithstanding the international ter

Acting Secretary Wike today awarded John Webb of Philadelphia the sum of \$500, being the informer's share of a fine imposed upon Lees & Son of that city for violation of alien contract labor law. Under the law the informer in such cases receives one-half the amount of the fine.

SUFFERINGINGREASES A FEEBLE MONARCH

If you want today's

news today you can find

it only in The Star.

Precarious State of Queen Victoria's Health.

HER RECENT DEPARTURE FROM LONDON

Opening Museums and Art Galleries Sunday.

LATE TOPICS ABROAD

(Copyright, 1896, by the Associated Press.) LONDON, March 14.-The departure of he queen on Monday for the south of France has drawn forth a pathetic account of the increasing feebleness of her majesty. It is said that she is evidently grieving greatly at the loss of Prince Henry of Battenberg, who was never tired of waiting upon his n other-in-law, and who no doubt had sincere less for the aged sovereign. In view of the state of her majesty's health much of the usual state was abandoned, and she was carefully wheeled on board the royal yacht

a specially constructed chair. Upon arriving at Cherbourg, there was a dense fog, which did not tend to improve the condition. The gangway ways, it was noticed, were decorated with black and white flags, and by her majesty's command all floral and other decorations were emoved. And so she was escorted ashore, pathetic picture of woe, an almost heartbroken won an mourning her dead and seeming to take but little interest in her surroundings, the funeral aspect of which added considerably to the depressing naure of the scene.

As a special mark of respect to the queen, the bandmaster of one of the French infantry regiments in garrison at Cherbourg composed a piece in her honor.
But she would not allow it to be played, though she did not forget the bandmaster's thoughtfulness, as a nice little present taken to him by one of the gentlemen in waiting testified

Sunday Opening.

The decision arrived at by parliament this week to allow the opening of the museums and art galleries on Sundays has afforded delight to the majority of the people, and indicates a rapid change in public sentiment on the subject. It was only ten years ago that parliament rejected a similar motion by a crushing majority, and its action was upheld in most quarters. But the determination to open the British and Kensington museums, the national gallery, etc., on Sundays, is now received with general commendation, which would seem to indicate a passing away of the stern conservatism which has been a feature of the British character for generations.

Plans of Bimetallists.

In speaking of the proposed plan of the Bimetallic League to bring a metion beore parliament favoring charge would to a great extent depend upon the ratio which was adopted. present, roughly speaking, gold is more than thirty times the value of silver. There are some bi-metallists who would insist on a ratio approaching the market values. For practical purposes, however, we may at once dismiss any such idea. In France the legal ratio is still 151 to 1. and no French authority has shown any

disposition to accept any material change. America would, I believe, take a similar Practically, then, bimetallism means a ratio of 15 or 15½ to 1-that is, foreign countries should be permitted to send us any quantity of silver at double its present price. B'metallists tell us that if there was any practical probability of the adoption of bimetallism the value of silver would rapidly rise. I doubt, however, whether this would be the result. We should rather, I think, see a great stimulus given to silver mines, a great increase in production of silver, and all creditors would do their best to call in their debts

while they could still claim payment in Personal Notes.

gold.

It is announced that the Princess Kaiulani of Hawaii, who is now in northern Italy, is to be married to an Italian noble man on Easter Menday. But the Hawaiians who are on intimate

terms with the princess, deny it, and say she would jeopardize her chances of the throne of Hawaii by marrying an Italian. The system of privately educating the princes of the royal family has been abandoned by the queen, who is supreme author-ity in such matters. Prince Arthur of Connaught is at a school near Farnborough, and Princes Albany and Alexander of Battenberg are going in Lyndhurst after Easter. The funeral of Mrs. Marshall Field of Chicago took place at Newbold-Pacey. Warwickshire, on Monday. Mr. Marshall Field arrived here on the Campania, and his sons, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Tree were among

posited on the casket. NEW PRINTING OFFICE.

The House Committee on Public Buildings Looking for a Site.

The House committee on public buildings and grounds has taken up the question of providing a new government printing office, and will endeavor to secure action at this session of Congress. Several members of the committee, including Chairman Milliken and Messrs. Mercer, Keifer, Gillett, White, Henry and Little, spent this afternoon looking at a number of proposed sites

for the building.

It is the idea of several members of the committee that the new printing office should be located in closer proximity to the Capitol, on account of the constant interchange of communication between the two amining available sites, is paying especial attention to vacant squares lying within a few blocks of the Capitol. Today the members of the committee devoted m attention to going over the ground south of the Capitol.

The committee realizes, it is said, that the committee realizes, it is said, that the most fatal opposition to the passage of a bill providing a new government printing office has arisen heretofore over the selec-tion of a site. Conflicting interes's have fought the bill itself upon a number of oc-casion; in the House and Senate, and the committee does not anticipate any change in tactics in this regard when it brings in its bill. An effort will be made, however, to secure an agreement on a location be-tween the House and Senate committees, if possible, and if this can be done, to fight the disappointed real estate owners to a finish at this session. The committee is nnish at this session. The committee is thoroughly in earnest about providing an adequate building, unalterably opposed to patching up the present old shell, and, if a site can be agreed upon, a bill will be brought in providing for a printing office that will answer the demands made upon t by the work of the government for many years to come.

News From Honolulu. Word comes from Honolulu by telegraph

from San Francisco that the cruiser Adams arrived at Honolulu on the 1st instant, and